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### **(U) Agency Hosts Movie Premiere and Sneak Preview**

Employees of the Agency with a mission like no other experienced a night like no other on October 13 when Headquarters was the scene of the premiere of "In the Company of Spies," a movie scheduled to air on Showtime on October 24. Some [ ] Agency employees and guests of the Agency and Showtime/Paramount applauded the film directed by actor Tim Matheson which stars Oscar-nominated actor Tom Berenger and Tony Award-winning actor Ron Silver. (Even the Bubble's movie screen drew applause when it rose from the floor.) The story follows a retired CIA Operations Officer (Berenger) who is brought back into action by the DCI (Silver) to save a captured colleague held in North Korea. The premiere generated extensive favorable coverage for the Agency in the national television, radio, and newspaper media. Those in the audience agreed with the assessment of Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan, who "enjoyed it very much."

CIA hosted the presentation for employees and guests because the film captures the profound dedication of the Agency's men and women to the CIA's mission and deep commitment to saving American lives and protecting American interests all over the world. It gives the viewer a sense of the effort and the expertise--the risks and the sacrifices--that the Agency's essential intelligence work for the nation entails. Most important of all, it shows the integrity, excellence, and bravery of Agency employees. For the same reasons, CIA agreed to cooperate in the production of the film, some of which was filmed at CIA Headquarters. [ ] Agency employees, many of whom attended the screening, volunteered to participate off-duty as "extras" during one day of weekend filming.

No visit to the Agency would be complete without a trip to the [ ] reports that between 9:30 and 10:55 p.m., the guests spent about 2/3 of an average day's sales, carting away arm-loads of t-shirts, caps, and infant/children's outfits.

Several of the principals wrote notes for *What's News* to share with the Agency's employees:

- I am so proud to be an observer and at least an honorary member of the CIA Family. I leave here with a sense of wonder, awe, and admiration for all that you do. Thank you. --Tim Matheson, director
- It's been an honor to serve as your DCI and portray your service to our country. Thank you for all you do for us. --Ron Silver, actor Thanks to all not just for coming to our movie, but for being the reason for the making of it, for your dedication and loyalty for which this country is so indebted. --Roger Towne, screenwriter
- I have to say this is the most exciting premiere Tom and I have attended. --Trish Berenger

The following morning, [ ] more employees watched a sneak preview of the film. Screenwriter Roger Towne (he wrote the screenplay for "The Natural", among other films), told the audience that he considered it "a great privilege to be involved in this project. I was thrilled to write it. Producer Robert Cort's treatment gave me a wonderfully told story. [ ] While writing the screenplay, I was able to meet numerous CIA employees. This project gave me the opportunity to participate in giving life to what you do and what is misunderstood by the public at large. My passion for this project grew day by day. Thanks for being who you are. I am humbled to have been a part of it. I hope

to continue to tell your stories."

Ron Silver told the audience that there are numerous reasons why actors agree to join a project, including simply needing the rent money to wanting to work with a particular cast. "But sometimes you just want to be in the project. After I read this script, I wanted to be a part of it. This was something that was very dear to my heart. In college, I had some crazy romance about the CIA. [redacted] an Agency recruiter, talked to me. I had studied Chinese, and later traveled to Russia. I've thus always had an avocational interest in intelligence and foreign affairs. For me, this was not simply another role. This script is a tribute to you people, who have decided to do something for us with your lives. I wanted to tell people about you and what you do and to say thank you for making this life choice."

If you attended either of the events and have an anecdote that you'd like to share, please send it to [redacted]  
[redacted] We'll post the best ones in Neat Stuff in the OPA database. Here's Ron Silver's favorite anecdote: "While I was autographing programs, one of your employees asked me to address it to her two children: Casey and Colby!"

*(This is UNCLASSIFIED.)*

*(U) DCI Tenet welcomes Tim Matheson, Tom Berenger, and Ron Silver.*

*(U) The night began with a procession of sleek black stretch limousines that arrived at the main entrance.*

*(U) Tom and Patricia Berenger were among the Hollywood celebrities who walked down a red carpet and faced a gauntlet of television cameras and media interviewers.*

*(U) Master of Ceremonies [redacted] OPA, who served as technical advisor for the film, welcomes Senator Max Cleland to the post-screening reception held in [redacted] orridor.*

*(U) Tim Matheson told the audience that thanks to the assistance of the Publications Review Board, the entire text of his speech was "I hope... you enjoy... the... movie."*

*(U) DCI George Tenet sat in on drums with the [redacted] Band.*

